

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



SITUATION REPORT #38

2006-2007 WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY

Published September 18, 2007, at 1100 Hours

Operational Period: September 4, 2007 – September 18, 2007

CURRENT SITUATION:

The northern and southwestern portions of the District continue to experience moderate to severe drought conditions. The current level of Lake Okeechobee is 9.65 feet NGVD 29 (National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929), which is 3.77' lower than it was at this time last year and 4.0' below the historical average for this date.

WEATHER & WATER CONDITIONS:

Weather - Above average rains this week with widespread moderate to heavy rains possible Wednesday and Thursday. An upper level trough is digging into the Florida peninsula this morning. This scenario will aid the development of a nontropical low just off the coast today that will then migrate westward across the peninsula tonight and into the extreme eastern Gulf of Mexico tomorrow. Then, tropical development is possible as this low moves westward through the Gulf on Thursday. This is good news from a hydrologic viewpoint as areas of heavy rainfall are likely during this evolution. Look for locally heavy rains to 4" near the east and south coasts today through tonight. Heavier rains are more likely to envelop interior areas of the District tomorrow and Thursday.

Water Levels -

- Current water levels at key locations (all measurements in feet. Stages and levels are reported in National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929):

Area	Current Water Level (ft)	Change from Previous 2 Weeks (ft)	Change from previous 4 weeks (ft)
Lake Okeechobee	9.65	0.10	0.01
Lake Istokpoga	38.28	-0.01	0.04
Water Conservation Area 1	16.56	0.11	0.37
Water Conservation Area 2A	12.56	0.01	-0.13
Water Conservation Area 3A	9.10	0.33	-0.09
Canal C-23 (Upper East Coast)	22.01	-0.12	1.93
Canal C-24 (Upper East Coast)	18.87	-0.89	-0.79
Canal C-25 (Upper East Coast)	19.35	-0.43	-0.11

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Water Levels (continued):

- Lake Okeechobee is at 9.65 feet NGVD, up from the all-time record low of 8.81 feet NGVD. However, the Lake remains approximately 1.3 feet below the record low level for this date and is well within the Water Shortage Management Zone.
- The major urban areas of concern continue to be the four public water supply wellfields in the Lower East Coast region, which have shown increasing chloride levels in nearby monitoring wells. These “at risk” wellfields are Lake Worth, Lantana, Hallandale and Dania Beach. District staff is in close contact with all four utilities, and all groups are cooperating and exploring contingency plans and action scenarios to meet reduced water demands while minimizing saltwater intrusion.

ACTIVITY UPDATES:

- **Enforcement – Local Government**
 - Local government enforcement actions continue to decline.
- **Enforcement – District**
 - Provided a reduced level of ground surveillance within Lake Okeechobee Service Area, Upper Indian Prairie, St. Lucie Agricultural Area (C-23, 24 & 25), Lower East Coast, Upper East Coast, and Lower West Coast.
 - No new water shortage restriction violations were documented.
 - Weekend surveillance activities were suspended due to the lack of scheduled water deliveries.
- **Current Phase Restrictions are displayed in the attached map**

AUTHORIZATION:

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Executive in Charge

DISTRIBUTION:

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